Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 08178 201626Z

42.

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OFA-01 OES-05 MMO-04 SS-15 SP-02

ABF-01 PER-03 COME-00 OMB-01 NSC-05 /060 W

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O R 201549Z NOV 75 FM AMEMBASSY MADRID TO AMCONSUL CASABLANCA IMMEDIATE INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3722 AMEMBASSY RABAT

UNCLAS MADRID 8178

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIS, AFSP
SUBJ: POSSIBLE "REPROGRAM" OF REGIONAL FISHERIES ATTACHE
POSITION IN AFRICA

REF: CASABLANCA 886

- 1. REPROGRAMMING RFA POSITION TO WASHINGTON D.C.
 IN RFA'S PERSONAL VIEW, COULD HAVE CERTAIN BUDGETARY
 ADVANGAGES, BUT FEW IF ANY ECONOMIC, COMMERCIAL,
 POLITICAL, OR SCIENTIFIC ADVANTAGES. IN FACT, IN TERMS
 OF THESE ECONOMIC, COMMERCIAL, POLITICAL AND SCIENTIFIC
 ELEMENTS, WHICH PROVIDE RATIONALE FOR EXISTENCE OF
 ATTACHE POSITION, RFA PERSONAL VIEW IS THAT DISTINCT
 DISADVANGAGES WOULD RESULT FROM PROPOSED REPROGRAMMING
 OF POSITION.
- 2. RFA POSITION IN CASABLANCA WAS NEGOTIATED BY OFFICES IN THE DEPARTMENT AND BY AGENCIES WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE. VALUE JUDGEMENTS OF RFA PROGRAM SHOULD LEGITIMATELY BE ADDRESSED TO THESE APPROPRIATE OFFICES FOR REPLY, AS SHOULD ANY QUESTIONS CONCERNING POSSIBLE CHANGES IN PROGRAM AS PRESENTLY STRUCTURED.
- 3. POST WILL RECALL RFA ARRIVAL ON MARCH 7, 1975 AND THAT PERMANENT HOUSING WAS NOT AVAILABLE UNTIL MID-JUNE. UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 MADRID 08178 201626Z

NO TRAVEL WAS UNDERTAKEN DURING THAT TIME.

DURING FIVE MONTH PERIOD WHICH FOLLOWED RFA HAS SPENT 2 MONTHS ON TRAVEL STATUS INCLUDING TRIPS TO: CANARY ISLANDS, ITALY, KENYA, MADAGASCAR, MAURITANIA, SENEGAL, SPAIN AND THE UNITED STATES.

- 4. RFA HAS NO BUDGET DATA ON COST OF MAINTAINING POST AT AN OVERSEAS POST VIS-A-VIS WASHINGTON D.C.
- 5. RFA ASSUMES CERTAIN BUDGETARY SAVINGS WOULD ACCRUE FROM A TRANSFER OF OPERATIONS TO WASHDC. IF, FOR EXAMPLE, TOTAL NUMBER OF ATTACHES IN RFA PROGRAM COULD BE SIGNIFICANTLY EXPANDED BECAUSE OF SAVINGS MADE IN MOVE, THEN SUCH AN ACTION MIGHT JUSTIFY A TRANSFER OF RFA FUNCTIONS TO WASHDC.
- 6. THE DECISION TO EXAMINE THIS AND/OR OTHER POSSIBLE BENEFITS DUE TO ANY PROGRAM CHANGES RESTS, HOWEVER, SOLELY WITH THE DEPARTMENT IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE.
- 7. NOTE: RFA PRESENTLY HEAVILY INVOLVED IN ICCAT TUNA MEETING IN MADRID AND DUE LAST MINUTE ARRIVAL OF REFTEL, IMMEDIATE REPLY DATE, UNABLE TO PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE ANALYSIS OF RFA PROGRAM IN AFRICA AS REQUESTED. UPON RETURN TO POST RFA WOULD BE WILLING TO PROVIDE MORE DETAILED OBSERVATIONS. STABLER

NOTE BY OC/T: REF: CASABLANCA 886 APPARENTLY NOT SENT STATE.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: FISHERIES, ATTACHES, PERSONNEL MOVEMENTS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 20 NOV 1975 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: n/a Disposition Approved on Date: Disposition Authority: n/a Disposition Case Number: n/a

Disposition Camment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a Disposition Reason: Disposition Remarks:

Document Number: 1975MADRID08178
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D750404-1045

From: MADRID

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751125/aaaaavtr.tel Line Count: 90

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Office: ACTION NEA Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 75 CASABLANCA 886 Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: izenbei0

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 03 OCT 2003

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a Review History: RELEASED <03 OCT 2003 by chicheje>; APPROVED <28 JAN 2004 by izenbei0>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JÚL 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: POSSIBLE "REPROGRAM" OF REGIONAL FISHERIES ATTACHE POSITION IN AFRICA TAGS: EFIS, AFSP, XA
To: CASABLANCA

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006